



STATE OF ARIZONA

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GOVERNOR

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May 12, 2008

The Honorable Timothy S. Bee
President
Arizona State Senate
1700 West Washington
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Re: Senate Bill 1097; GITA; State Treasurer's Office Exemption

Dear President Bee:

Today I vetoed Senate Bill 1097, the bill that proposed to limit the jurisdiction of the newly created Statewide Information Security and Privacy Office ("SISPO") as it relates to the State Treasurer's Office's banking and investment systems.

SISPO was created during the 2007 legislative session to ensure the safety and privacy of the state's information technology systems. Among other things, SISPO has the statutory power to temporarily suspend the operation of a government information infrastructure to stop the spread of an information security breach.

Senate Bill 1097 would prohibit SISPO and its parent organization, the Government Information Technology Agency, from directly accessing the State Treasurer's Office's banking or investment systems and prohibit SISPO from suspending the operation of those banking and investment systems under any circumstances. The Treasurer's Office argues that such restrictions are necessary because of the sensitivity of its financial information and the potential financial impact on the state if the Treasurer's Office is unable to electronically effect its market trades and money management efforts.

This argument goes too far. Every state agency maintains sensitive, confidential information (including private citizen data) and could be negatively affected by a suspension of its information technology systems. During the rulemaking process contemplated in Senate Bill 1097, these potential losses can be weighed against the need to protect all of our state-wide information technology systems against cyber attacks. It is premature and bad precedent to legislatively carve away at SISPO's jurisdiction before it has begun this important work.

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For these and other reasons, I have vetoed Senate Bill 1097. I encourage the State Treasurer's Office to participate in the SISPO rulemaking process and present its concerns in that forum.

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Janet Napolitano", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Janet Napolitano
Governor

JN:LK

cc: The Honorable Jim Weiers
The Honorable Robert Burns